



## Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

**NAME OF AGENCY:** Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County

**ADDRESS:** 913 E. Whidbey Ave., Oak Harbor, WA 98277

**CONTACT:** (360)279-0644; <http://www.bbbsislandcounty.org>

**GENERAL GOALS:** For more than a century, Big Brothers Big Sisters has helped children reach their potential through professionally supported relationship with proven results.

### SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

Onehundred percent ( 100%) of your funds were used to match vulnerable girls with caring adult women who model success and provide essential, one-to-one mentoring at a critical time in their lives. This program provides vulnerable girls with a strong and dependable female role model. These are children that might otherwise drift into negative and self-destructive behavior with potentially life-long consequences. We give special priority to services for girls that are developmentally delayed or that live with physical disabilities.

For more information, please see the attached report from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County.





**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF ISLAND COUNTY**

913 E. Whidbey Ave. · Oak Harbor, WA 98277

(360) 279-0644 · Fax (360) 279-1356

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August 28, 2014

Marilyn Sheldon  
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund  
880227<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271  
msheldon@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

RE: Q2 2013 14.2

Dear Ms. Sheldon

Please accept our report on the expenditure of \$ [REDACTED] awarded by the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund in August of 2013 for mentoring services for High Risk Teen and Preteen Girls. One-hundred percent (100%) of your funds were used to match vulnerable girls with caring adult women who model success and provide essential, one-to-one mentoring at a critical time in their lives. This program provides vulnerable girls with a strong and dependable female role model. These are children that might otherwise drift into negative and self-destructive behavior with potentially life-long consequences. We give special priority to services for girls that are developmentally delayed or that live with physical disabilities. A recent study found that 68% of girls with disabilities are sexually abused before age 18.

We projected in our proposal that in calendar year 2014 we would provide mentoring services for approximately 75 high-risk teen and pre-teen girls. To date for 2014 we have served 69 high-risk girls. Most of the high-risk girls we serve live in low-income homes. However, some qualify due to other compelling life factors that make the presence of a caring adult mentor in their lives a critical priority. These factors may include a history of domestic violence in the home, adult or sibling drug and/or alcohol abuse, severe mental or physical illness affecting parents or caregivers, a chaotic home environment, actual or potential sexual abuse and/or developmental disability. Some of our girls experience a number of these factors.

Nothing will illustrate the work we do with high-risk girls more effectively than the story of one of our truly successful matches.

Little Sister Chloe is 13 years old. She has been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome and has other chronic health concerns as well. Chloe has been assigned to the special education program at her school. She has been the victim of bullying and has problems defining healthy boundaries with strangers. Chloe has also struggled with peer relationships, and her "stranger danger" awareness skills are poor. Little Chloe was

frequently left alone as young child. Her biological parents are involved with the penal system and lost guardianship. She was adopted by her grandparents, but her grandfather passed away last year. Her sole remaining legal guardian is her grandmother who is over 70.

Chloe has been matched with Big Sister Nadia for almost three years. Chloe was in elementary school when the match started and is now in middle school. Big Sister Nadia is originally from Peru and is fluent in Spanish. In addition to her service as a Big Sister she has worked as a volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County, translating program materials into Spanish for use by non-English speaking parents and caregivers.

Chloe and Nadia have formed a strong mentoring bond. Nadia has helped her Little Sister to work through life challenges as they arise. For example she worked with Nadia to gain a better perspective when she was caught stealing. This is a very active match with many activities outside of the classroom. Big Sister Nadia has helped Chloe to gain increased self-confidence and also to learn practical skills. The two have been making dinner together for Chloe's grandmother so that Chloe can learn cooking skills. Nadia also encouraged Chloe to become involved in the music program at her school, and she has been playing the flute for several months now.

For nearly three years now Big Sister Nadia has been a strong anchor for Chloe as she has struggled to find her way through difficult and confusing life changes. Whatever happens, Chloe knows that Nadia will be there for her as a friend, advisor and role model.

Chloe's story is only one example of many that we could relate describing the effectiveness of our mentoring program for high-risk teen and pre-teen girls. Each match that we develop between a vulnerable child and a caring adult is individual and distinct. However, the results and the benefits that that children receive can be seen in every aspect of their development.

Thank you again for your ongoing generosity. Your organization has been a loyal and generous donor to our effort to improve the lives and prospects of low-income and other vulnerable Island County boys and girls. If you require additional information about our mentoring services, please do not hesitate to contact me at (360) 279-0644 or [pennyp@bbbsislandcounty.org](mailto:pennyp@bbbsislandcounty.org). More information about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County can be found on our website at [www.bbbsislandcounty.org](http://www.bbbsislandcounty.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Penny Perka".

Penny Perka  
Executive Director